

## AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 6-7, 9 and 15 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 8, 10-14 and 16-20, as shown in marked up form below.

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1. (Currently Amended) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone system local loop, the method comprising:

communicating with a communications network and acquiring status information associated with a Digital Loop Carrier; ~~and~~

~~automatically~~ predicting proactive maintenance based upon the status information;

generating work order information describing the predicted proactive maintenance;

dispatching a common database of the work order information to a user; and

updating the work order information in response to new status information inputted by the user.

2. (Original) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone system local loop according to claim 1, further comprising predicting proactive maintenance of the local loop based upon the status information.

3. (Original) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone system local loop according to claim 1, further comprising weighting the status information.

4. (Original) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone system local loop according to claim 1, further comprising combining the status information with information from a Dynamic Network Analyzer.


5. (Original) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone system local loop according to claim 1, further comprising combining the status information with information from a Loop Facilities and Control System.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone system local loop according to claim 1, further comprising interfacing with a technician dispatch system to dispatch the common database of the work order information describing the predicted proactive maintenance, and wherein the user inputs the new status information in the technician dispatch system.

9. (Cancelled)

 10. (Currently Amended) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone system local loop according to claim 1, further comprising interfacing with a TELCORDIA Tech Access System to dispatch the common database of the work order information describing the predicted proactive maintenance.

11. (Currently Amended) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone system local loop according to claim 1, further comprising interfacing with a Loop Maintenance Operating System to dispatch the common database of the work order information describing the predicted proactive maintenance.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone system local loop according to claim 1, further comprising acquiring the work order information from a Loop Maintenance Operating System.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone system local loop, the method comprising:  
communicating with a communications network and acquiring at least one of customer information associated with a copper line pairs, service information associated with the copper line pairs, and status information associated with a Digital Loop Carrier;

storing the acquired information;  
combining the stored information; ~~and~~  
~~automatically~~ predicting proactive maintenance based upon the combined  
information;  
generating work order information describing the predicted proactive  
maintenance; and  
storing all the generated work order information to provide historical work order  
information.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone  
system local loop according to claim 13, wherein ~~the step of~~ combining the stored  
information further includes weighting the stored information.

15. (Cancelled)

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16. (Currently Amended) A method for proactively maintaining a telephone  
system local loop according to claim 13, further comprising dispatching the work order  
information describing the predicted proactive maintenance.

17. (Currently Amended) A system for predicting proactive maintenance of a  
telephone system local loop, the system comprising:

a Dynamic Network Analyzer module communicating with a communications  
network and acquiring Dynamic Network Analyzer information;  
a Loop Facilities and Control System module communicating with the  
communications network and acquiring Loop Facilities and Control System information;  
a Digital Loop Carrier module communicating with the communications network  
and acquiring Digital Loop Carrier information;  
a database stored in memory, the database storing the acquired information; and  
a processor capable of processing information stored in the database and of  
generating proactive maintenance, wherein the processor provides a common database of

the proactive maintenance for a user to access and use, and updates the proactive maintenance in response to user information inputted by the user.

18. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium on which is encoded computer program code for proactively maintaining a telephone system, comprising:

computer program code for communicating with a communications network and acquiring status information associated with a Digital Loop Carrier; and

computer program code for predicting proactive maintenance based upon the status information;

computer program code for providing a common database of the proactive maintenance for a user;

computer program code for updating the proactive maintenance in response to new status information inputted by the user; and

computer program code for providing historical information of the proactive maintenance by storing all the proactive maintenance.

19. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 18, further comprising computer program code for combining the status information with information from a Dynamic Network Analyzer.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium according to claim 18, further comprising computer program code for combining the status information with information from a Loop Facilities and Control System.